

Application Serial No. 10/039,684  
Amendment dated December 11, 2003  
Reply to Office Action of August 31, 2003

### **Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (CANCEL)
2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~The process of claim 1~~ In a process for making a multiple-layer label, the steps of:  
providing hold-down openings in a first web defining an upper label layer;  
combining said first web with a second web, which second web defines a base label layer; and  
applying an adhesive overlamine to said first web, said overlamine extending over and through said hold-down openings in said first web and securing said first and second webs together, wherein the second web is a composite of a base label material, adhesive and a liner, and including the further step of die-cutting said first web and overlamine into discrete upper labels on said second web.

3. (ORIGINAL) The process of claim 2 including in the die-cutting step, the step of forming edge portions of said upper labels along the edges defining portions of said hold-down openings in said first web, such that the die-cut overlamine extends over both leading and trailing edges of said die cut upper label in said first web.

4. (ORIGINAL) The process of claim 2 including the further step of removing a combined waste matrix of overlamine and first web, and leaving discrete upper labels on said second web.

5. (ORIGINAL) The process of claim 4 including the further step of die cutting said second web to form discrete base labels with discrete upper labels on the base labels.

6. (ORIGINAL) The process of claim 5 including the further step of removing a waste matrix of at least said second web to leave a series of base labels, each with a discrete upper label thereon, on said liner.

7. (ORIGINAL) The process of claim 2, wherein the die cutting step includes cutting an upper label shape, including a removal tab shape, in said overlamine and including a portion of otherwise waste matrix of said first web under a leading end of the tab-shape of said overlamine to define a multiple layer tab of said overlamine material of said first web.
8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The process of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 2 including carrying out said steps in a single pass of the webs through a press.
9. (ORIGINAL) The process of claim 2 including the step of die cutting a plurality of discrete upper labels extending transversely on and across said second web.
10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The process of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 2 including removing material cut out from the openings in said first web.

11. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED/ALLOWED) In a process of forming a multiple layer label, the steps of:

providing hold-down openings in a first web defining an upper layer label;

combining said first web with a second web, which second web defines a base label layer, and applying a hold-down tape to said first web in a disposition overlying said openings;

said hold-down tape securing said two webs together through said openings; and

die cutting said first web and said tape and removing a combined waste matrix of portions of said first web and said hold-down tape to leave discrete upper labels held by discrete hold-down tapes on said second web, wherein said hold-down tapes are narrower than the width of said discrete upper labels.

12. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED/ALLOWED) The process of claim 11, including the further step of applying an adhesive overlamine web onto said second web and over said discrete upper labels and hold-down tapes and onto said second web.

13. (ORIGINAL/ALLOWED)      The process of claim 12 including the further step of die cutting said overlamine into shapes overlapping at least portions of said discrete upper labels.

14. (ORIGINAL/ALLOWED)      The process of claim 13 including the further step of removing a waste matrix of overlamine from around said discrete upper labels.

15. (ORIGINAL/ALLOWED)      The process of claim 14 wherein said second web includes a composite of base label layer, adhesive and liner, and includes the further step of die cutting said second web to define a series of base labels on said liner, each having an upper label thereon.

16. (ORIGINAL/ALLOWED)      The process of claim 15 including the further step of removing a waste matrix of said second web to leave a series of base labels on said liner, each carrying an upper label covered by said overlamine.

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41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) In a process for making labels, the steps of:

providing hold-down openings in a first web defining an upper label layer;

combining said first web with a second ~~carrier~~ web which is a composite of a base label material, adhesive and liner;

applying an adhesive overlamine to said first web, said overlamine extending over and through said hold-down openings in said first web and securing said first web to said ~~[[web]]~~ second carrier web.

42. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The process of claim 41, including the further step of die cutting at least said overlamine and removing a waste matrix of overlamine to produce a series of discrete upper labels held on said ~~carrier~~ second web by remaining portions of said overlamine.

43. (ORIGINAL) The process of claim 42, including the step of die cutting said overlamine at a leading edge of said upper label so that it is coextensive therewith.

44. (CANCELLED)

45. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) In a process of making multiple layer labels, the steps of:

providing a series of transversely extending hold-down openings across and in a first web defining an upper label layer;

providing a series of longitudinally extending hold-down openings in said first web;

said two respective series alternating in disposition on said web;

combining said first web with a second web which is a composite of a base label material adhesive and liner defining in part a base label layer;

applying an adhesive overlamine on said first web, said overlamine extending over said hold-down holes and securing said two webs together through said holes;

cutting a series of upper label shapes in said overlamine with at least two upper labels being disposed side-by-side transversely across said second web.

46. (ORIGINAL) A process as in claim 45 including the further step of defining tabs in said upper labels with tabs of labels which are substantially defined between said transversely extending hold-down openings being located on a leading edge of such labels and tabs of labels which are substantially defined between longitudinally-extending hold-

down openings being located on longitudinal side edges of such labels.

47. (ORIGINAL) A process as in claim 46 including stripping from said structure a waste matrix, leaving a plurality of discrete upper labels on said second web, said overlamine overlapping at least two respective parallel edges of each upper label layer.

48. (ORIGINAL) A process as in claim 47 wherein the tab defining steps includes cutting a tab-shaped portion of said first web under a portion of said overlamine, forming each tab such that each tab comprises an overlamine adhered to a tab portion of said first web to facilitate tab lifting and label removal.

49. (ORIGINAL) The process of claim 47 wherein said second web comprises a base label layer adhered to a liner, and further including the step of die cutting said base label layer of said second web and stripping therefrom a waste matrix of said base label layer to leave a series of base labels on said liner with each base label carrying a plurality of upper labels thereon.

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59. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The process of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 2 wherein the first and second webs are combined before the adhesive overlamine is applied to said first web.

60. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The process of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 2 wherein the overlamine is applied to said first web before the first and second webs are combined.

61. (ORIGINAL/ADDED BY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT) The process of claim 7 including forming the tabs extending from a portion of the upper labels other than a leading edge thereof.

62. (ORIGINAL/ADDED BY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT) The process of claim 7 including forming said tabs of both overlamine and a portion of otherwise waste matrix such that said tabs are secured to upper labels by overlamine material disposed between said upper label and said tab.

63. (ORIGINAL/ADDED BY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT/ALLOWED) The process of claim 11 wherein the first and second webs are combined before said tape is applied to said first web.

64. (ORIGINAL/ADDED BY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT/ALLOWED) The process of claim 11 wherein said tape is applied to said first web before said first web is combined with said second web.

65. (ORIGINAL/ADDED BY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT) A process as in claim 41 wherein said overlamine is applied to said first web before said first and second webs are combined.

66. (ORIGINAL/ADDED BY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT) A process as in claim 41 wherein said first and second webs are combined before said overlamine is applied to said first web.

67. (ORIGINAL/ADDED BY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT) A process as in claim 42 including the further step of forming tabs extending respectively from and edge of said upper labels.

68. (ORIGINAL/ADDED BY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT) A process as in claim 67 wherein said tab is formed with one portion comprising only overlamine and a second portion comprising both overlamine and a reinforcing layer.

69. (ORIGINAL/ADDED BY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT) A process as in claim 45 wherein said overlamine is applied to said first web before said first and second webs are combined.

70. (ORIGINAL/ADDED BY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT) A process as in claim 45 wherein said first and second webs are combined before said overlamine is applied to said

first web.

71. (ORIGINAL/ADDED BY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT) A process as in claim 48 wherein said tabs are formed with a reinforced portion and a portion consisting of said overlamine, and wherein said tab is secured to said label by an overlamine portion extending between the label and the tab.

72. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) In a process for making a multiple-layer label, the steps of:

providing hold-down openings in a first upper label element;

combining said upper label element with a web element which web element is a composite of base label material, adhesive and an elongated liner and which defines in part a base label layer; and

applying an adhesive overlamine to said upper label element, said overlamine extending over and through said hold-down openings in said upper label element and securing said first upper label element and ~~said second~~ web[[s]] element together.



73. (ORIGINAL/ADDED BY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT/ALLOWED) In a process of forming a multiple layer label, the steps of:

providing hold-down openings in an upper label element defining an upper layer label;

combining said upper label element with a second web which web defines a base label layer, and applying a hold-down tape to said upper label element in a disposition overlying said openings;

said hold-down tape securing said upper label element and said web together through said openings; and

die cutting said upper label element and said tape and removing a combined waste matrix of portions of said upper label element and said hold-down tape to leave discrete upper labels held by discrete hold-down tapes on said web, wherein said hold-down tapes are narrower than the width of said discrete upper labels.

74. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) In a process for making labels, the steps of:

providing hold-down openings in an upper label element defining an upper label layer;

combining said upper label element with a carrier web which is a composite of label material, adhesive and a liner;

applying an adhesive overlamine to said upper label element, said overlamine extending over and through said hold-down openings in said upper label element securing said upper label element to said carrier web.

75. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) In a process of making multiple layer labels, the steps of:
- providing a series of transversely extending hold-down openings across and in an upper label element defining an upper label layer;
  - providing a series of longitudinally extending hold-down openings in said upper label element;
  - said two respective series alternating in disposition on said element;
  - combining said upper label element with a web which is a composite of label material, adhesive and a liner and defining in part a base label layer;
  - applying an adhesive overlamine on said upper label element, said overlamine extending over said hold-down holes and securing said upper label element to said web through said holes;
  - cutting a series of upper label shapes in said overlamine with at least two upper labels being disposed side-by-side transversely across said web.